5.24/97

Dear Jim,

Your 5/16 does clarify a bit.

But I ask again, what purpose was served for the FBI or could it imagine would be served by their doing anything to the patched place on that curbstone?

Without some purpose there was no point in doing anything and while the FBI did not often get caught in what it did wrong or get embarrassed, they'd not have done anything like that without a purpose. I see none.

In thinking of these thinks, and that is not the same as writing about them, it is important to bear in mind that we do not know what rifles or bullets were used. The actuality is that the official evidence proves Oswald could not have fired any of those shots. On the basis of what we know shots came from more than one direction, meaning more than one rifle. It is not impossible that skilled reflemen used their own weapons, those they preferred. And then do not forget that silencers could have been used on some shots.

I am not certain but I think it was Frazier who testified to the scraping of the curbstone. For some reason they did not use Gallagher until it was all over. He was the last witness. I think the best way to find that is to see where the exhibit was introduced. It could habe been Shaneyfelt, by the way, because he took the pictures. But I think it was Frazier,The exhibit to look for is not the picture but the FBI letter to the Commission.

I can't disagree with your doubts that a spectro plate was made but I am inclined to think they did to see what it would show. We never could get anything in writing on that destruction, if I remember correctly. The DJ lawyer said it. Jim Lesar, who was my lawyer, office 918 F St, #909, Washington 20004 may be able to tell you. If we had it in writing I might have put it in the spectro file in the subject files. Otherwise it is in the case file, with the lawsuits.

That is tricky language, typical of the FBI, where they talk about no copper showing on the shirt and what that can mean. It in fact means that nothing that could leave any trace hit it. The fact is as I learned from Carrico and Perry that the damages to the front of the shirt and to the tie were from a scalpel used by either Bowron or Stencheliffe under Carrico's direction. Redd that part of Post Mortem again. Fell free to us it it you'd like, it or anything I've done.

On the sounds of the shots, is it possible that those sounds were not caused by the firing of the bullets that were used but were sound effects, to hide the origin of the shots or to provide sounds if silencers were used? Is there a limit to what can safely be said about the sounds of those bullets?

With your purpose the attempted coverup of the missed shot when you are here again go over the statements from other sources, like the display people, if you've not done it, the upstairs files on shots, of which there are several, and I think you should make heavy use of CD1, in which it is not mentioned. There are but two references to the assassination itself in CD1, both at the end of Whitewash. I think that you can make much use of the first volume of it. Remember, we are each given the first 100 pages of copying from that archive free. If you have used your allotment get that in another name. It is about but just under the 100 free pages. Be sure you get it with the index itx has.

You are right on what you say about Hoover but there was another reason. Check under Edgewood Arsenal in Whitewash and beginning on page 301 in NEVER AGAIN! and you'll see that the best shots in the country could not duplicate the shooting attributed to Oswald. Who was a differ at best. Use the Folsom letter I use in WW. It has the citation and you can use if from the volumes.. They had to ignore the missed shot because the best shots in the country could not duplicate the shooting with three shots and a forth made it even more impossible. The SS and the FBI never acknowledged the missed shot. Even though they knew about it.

It does appear to be bumbling but I think the FBI looked that way because of what they were hiding, which made them look that eay. They knew what they were doing.

I think it is good to explore all we can explore before we put anything on paper or get it fixed in our minds.

Best t o you all,

Harold

Neither the FBI nor the SS would go for the single-bullet nonsense because they knew that was impossible and would expect to be criticized if they said it. So the missed shot for them was the fourth.